

# Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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## Flight Instructor Refresher Course Held in Helena February 8 & 9, 2019



For the second year MDT Aeronautics Division is hosting Aviation Seminars for the 2019 FIRC. Aviation Seminars has developed a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved Training Course Outline (TCO) for Flight Instructor Refresher. This live classroom course is an interactive, dynamic course that received great reviews from last year's participants. Attendees and the FIRC presenters discuss not only FAA required topics, but also the latest changes and training requirements that are important for every Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) to know. You will be involved in every facet of the course, and at the end, Aviation Seminars will process your FAA renewal application via Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application (IACRA) that will renew your CFI certificate, saving you time from mailing or having to visit a local Flight Standards District Office (FSDO). Aviation Seminars can renew your CFI certificate up to three calendar months before its expiration month – allowing for a nearly 120-day renewal period.

The FIRC will be held February 8th and 9th at the Delta Hotel Helena Colonial, located at 2301 Colonial Drive, Helena Montana. Reserve your room by calling (406) 443-2100 and reference rooming block "Flight Instructor Refresher Course." This two-day course will run from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Registration can be completed online at <https://www.aviationseminars.com/mt-firc>. Tuition for Montana registered pilots is \$175.00 and \$195.00 for non-Montana registered pilots. Not a Montana registered pilot? Register as a Montana pilot (MT Airport Directory and newsletter included) and save \$20.00 off the FIRC registration. Information on Montana pilot registration can be found at <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/regpilot.shtml>. For more information call Jeremy Gouley at (406) 444-9568 or email [jgouley@mt.gov](mailto:jgouley@mt.gov).

### You Can Help

Due to Print Service restructuring, the cost of newsletter publication has increased by 150 percent. MDT Aeronautics would like to start sending the newsletter out electronically to as many of you as we can. This will free up funds for some of the other great programs we would like to offer. If you choose to receive the newsletter electronically, just provide us with your email address and next month it will show up in your inbox! Please email your request to [MDTAeroSafetyEd@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAeroSafetyEd@mt.gov).



# Ice and Its Effects on Flight



Aircraft ice is bad news for most small general aviation aircraft. It destroys the smooth flow of air over the aircraft which in turn increases drag and decreases lift. Structural aircraft ice comes in a few different forms.

Rime ice forms when small drops of liquid impact the aircraft and freeze rapidly before they

have time to spread out over the aircraft surface. Because the drops freeze so quickly, they trap in air giving them a white appearance and a rough texture. Rime ice is very effective in increasing drag and reducing lift.

Clear ice forms when the liquid flows over the aircraft and slowly freezes. Clear ice generally forms when drops of liquid are large, as in rain, or in cumuliform clouds. Clear ice does not have a rough texture like rime ice. Clear ice is a glossy, transparent ice; it's heavy and builds quickly, making it difficult to determine how much has accumulated.

Mixed icing forms when drops vary in size and often are mixed with snow or ice particles. The particles are imbedded in the clear ice and make a rough accumulation sometimes in a mushroom shape. Mixed ice is very dangerous because of its rough texture and weight.

Wind tunnel and flight tests have shown that frost, snow, and ice accumulations no courser or thicker than a course piece of sand paper reduce lift by 30 percent and increase drag by 40 percent.

What does all this mean for the general aviation pilot? Ice, no matter what type and how much, greatly reduces the performance of your aircraft. Winter in Montana can produce all types of ice and conditions are often prime for ice accumulation/ formulation, even while parked on the ramp. So please, let's keep all aircraft free of ice and fly safely!



Tim Conway, Administrator

**Montana and the Sky**  
Department of Transportation

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## Yellowstone Airport Wraps Up Another Year!

The Yellowstone Airport in West Yellowstone, MT has seen its seasonal operations come to a close as it does every year around this time. The airport is typically open for General Aviation (GA) activity for approximately five months a summer season with scheduled air carrier service for four months and one week provided by Delta Connection dba SkyWest Airlines Inc.

The airport closes to all air traffic once snow accumulations arrive for the winter. During the winter months the airport leases the airfield to a variety of winter test events. These non-aeronautical revenues are greatly welcomed, as they help contribute to the overall financial health of the airport in its efforts to be self-sustainable.

The Yellowstone Airport staff hopes to see you in 2019!

# Local Aviator Receives FAA's Master Pilot Award

Recently, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recognized Captain Charlie Sherman of Lincoln, Montana, for five decades of safe flying. Charlie was honored with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, the highest award a pilot can receive from the FAA.

Jeff Vercoe, also a Lincoln resident and Helena Flight Standards District Office Safety Team Program Manager, presented Charlie with the award in Jerry Cain's hangar during the Lincoln Airport Open House at the end of July. The award is given to airmen who have at least 50 years of accident and violation free flying.

Sherman, a Navy aircraft mechanic Veteran, began his civilian aviation career as a "ramper" with Northwest Airlines in the early 1960s. His first job was dumping lavatories. He recalled having the honor of "it all raining down on him" out of a 707 on a chilly -32-degree day. He took three steps into the terminal and slipped and fell in the pot of "gold!" His crew didn't want to touch him, but they picked him up, hauled him downstairs, hosed him down and sent him back to work.

As time went on, Charlie finished Airframe and Powerplant mechanic school in southern California at Northrup Institute. Earning this rating landed him a job with Western Airlines in Minneapolis working as an avionics technician under his first class and second class radiotelephone operators licenses. From there, Charlie used his veteran benefits to begin flight training in 1965. He eventually worked his way through many ratings, ultimately earning his Certified Flight Instructor, Certified Flight Instructor Instrument and Certified Flight Instructor multi-engine certificates which allowed him to begin building hours of flight instructing, flying Grand Canyon scenic tours and charter flights.



*Captain Charles Sherman in the cockpit of a Boeing 727 Airliner  
Photo Credit: Charles Sherman*



*Charles Sherman accepts Master Pilot Award from Jeff Vercoe.  
Photo Credit: Aeronautics Staff*

Charlie hit it big when he made an appointment to talk to the president of Western Airlines, ultimately receiving constructive advice that later landed him in the Flight Engineer seat of a Lockheed Super Constellation at Western Airlines. Charlie stayed with Western, which was later bought out by Delta Airlines, for just over 25 years. He upgraded from Flight Engineer to first officer and eventually became an international Captain. Charlie is type-rated in the Boeing 727-737-757-767 and Learjet 25. He also holds ATP, Flight Engineer-Turbojet, CFI, CFII, MEI, A&P as well 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class FCC certificates.

Charlie continues to mentor and inspire new and young pilots, directing them towards their goals in aviation while helping them circumnavigate the challenges that he encountered during his career.

# Welcome Matt Lindberg



*Matt Lindberg*

*Photo Credit: Matt Lindberg*

Matt Lindberg joined the MDT Aeronautics Division as the Aviation Support Officer in the Airports & Airways Bureau on September 17, 2018. Matt is a Montana native and has been working at the world's largest Asia-Pacific flight academy as the Director of Flight Safety in Arizona based at the busiest general aviation airport in the country. Before that, he worked at fixed based operators in Great Falls and in Choteau for the late Roy Dirkes.

Matt has been flying for 15 years and particularly enjoys flying and fishing in the backcountry of Montana. During his time at various FBO's and repair stations, Matt conducted full restorations of various aircraft and performed general maintenance and avionics upgrades. At the end of 2007, he moved to Arizona to further his education and flight training. That led to a job at the flight academy. During his decade working at the academy, more than 6,000 national and international flight students and 3,000 flight instructors came through his doors. Matt also maintained safety for the academy's repair station, the companies' four campuses across two states, a DOT bus service, OSHA compliance, and worked in crew scheduling, parts supply, flight dispatch, flight following and maintenance control. He is a member of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators and a board member of the Arizona Flight Training

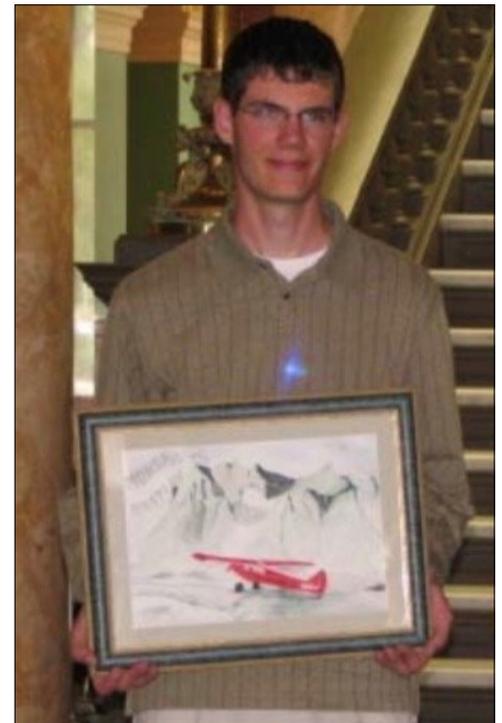
Workgroup, Aviation Safety Advisory Group, Phoenix Airspace Users Workgroup and is a FAA Safety Team Representative.

Matt always wanted to be a pilot. That eagerness to learn to fly in his teenage years lead Matt to attend the Montana Aeronautics Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) Academy in Helena led by Jeanne MacPherson, who was then Aeronautics Safety and Education Bureau Chief during that time. Participation in this summer camp solidified Matt's goals in aviation and showed him the paths to take to achieve them. Matt also attended the Division's Winter Survival Clinic, successfully sleeping overnight in a snow cave! Later, Matt became the grand prize winner of the 2006 Montana Aviation Awareness Art Contest and was sponsored to attend the Experimental Aircraft Association Air Academy during Oshkosh. This life changing trip exposed him to nearly all aspects of aviation, a chance to fly an RV-6A off the grass at Pioneer Field and create life-long friends and industry connections throughout the country that he still maintains contact and occasionally flies with today.

Because Matt has such a strong history with Aeronautics, it was only natural he wanted to return to Montana and work for the Aeronautics Division. He says it is the Division's contributions to aviation, pilots and airports in Montana that made him want the job. Continuous enhancements to Montana airports and airways, safety of all users and the economic contribution aviation brings to our economy are goals Matt shares with us.

Matt says his success in the aviation field can be credited to the Aeronautics Division programs he was a part of when he was younger, as well as the positive influence of Jeanne MacPherson, and he would like to express his gratitude to the Division and those who have helped his dreams come true. Matt believes the continuance and growth of these programs are vital to bringing new young pilots to the sky.

Matt will be conducting airport inspections at airports across the state, assisting with the Aeronautics Board's loan, grant and pavement preservation programs, updating and maintaining the Montana Airport Directory and Aeronautical Chart, providing search and rescue, serving as technical advisor for state and public airport and airway matters, and assisting with maintenance duties on the 16 state-owned airports. Matt is excited to be home in Montana close to his family and the great outdoors.



*Matt Lindberg, 2006 MDT Aeronautics Aviation Awareness Art Contest winner  
Photo Credit: Aeronautics Staff*

# FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL PASSED



On October 5, 2018, President Trump signed into law H.R.302- the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018. This five-year Reauthorization bill recognizes the important roles played by our nation's general aviation and small airports, makes much-needed and long overdue reforms, and provides funding to critical programs.

The Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant is authorized at \$3.35 billion each fiscal year through 2023. The new supplemental funding authorization for AIP discretionary funds from the general fund appropriations, exceeding \$1 billion each year is targeted towards small and rural airports. Many airports in Montana can benefit from this increase. These funds have the potential to bring much needed improvements to our nation's small airports in many rural areas. We look forward to the results of the House and Senate Appropriation Committees appropriations.

The states' aviation and transportation agencies will continue to work with the FAA on identifying the airports and projects that are the most critical to meeting state, regional, and national needs and that will ensure that we continue to improve Montana's airport and aviation infrastructure.

Other significant provisions of H.R. 302 that will benefit the nation's airports include: reforms to the Non-Primary Entitlement Program, expansion of the State Block Grant Program, reforms to the Contract Tower Program, alternatives for runway pavement specifications, reauthorization of the Essential Air Service and Small Community Air Service Development Program, airspace and several provisions related to Unmanned Aircraft System and Unmanned Traffic Management.

At least 50 percent of the newly available funds will have to be used for non-hub and small-hub airports, as well as general aviation airports. Many of Montana's airports meet these criteria. General aviation runway expansion and other construction projects can use an expedited environmental review process currently available for congested airports.

The Essential Air Service (EAS), which subsidizes flights to remote communities, will continue to be funded through a combination of overflight fees that are charged to flights that cross U.S. airspace but don't land and withdrawals from the national Airport and Airway Trust Fund.

The bill authorizes increased funding for each fiscal year from \$150 million in FY18 to \$172 million in FY23. Seven Montana airports currently have Essential Air Service. Additionally, the bill authorizes \$10 million annually for the Small Community Air Service Development Program (SCASDP) from fiscal years 2018 through 2023. The program provides grants to communities to expand air service. \$4.8 million of the \$10 million authorized annually is for a newly-created Regional Air Transportation Pilot Program. We are excited about the far reaching benefits this new funding could bring to the economy of Montana. Visit this link <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/302> for more information.

## Wind Farm Project Proposal

The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) is proposing construction of a 300-megawatt wind farm generating facility. The wind farm will include approximately 95 wind turbines. The project is proposed on 33,000 acres of private land approximately one mile north of Lindsay in Dawson County, Montana. See the full proposal at <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/webdata/external/aero/WAPA-Wind-Farm.pdf>

Comments may be submitted to: Western Area Power Administration Attn: Ms. Christina Gomer 2900 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Billings, MT 59101, Phone 406-255-2811, Email [gomer@wapa.gov](mailto:gomer@wapa.gov)

## Additional Scholarships Available

**Choice Aviation Scholarship** — A \$1,500 scholarship is available to the holder of at least a Private Pilot Certificate and a Second Class Medical, and who is looking to further advance themselves toward a career in aviation with additional pilot training at any of Choice Aviation's training facilities located in Montana or Wyoming. Visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml> for detailed information.

**Flying Musicians Association (FMA) Solo Scholarship** - This unique program assists aspiring flight students from zero time to solo. Candidates must be a junior or senior high school music student with a passion for music and aviation. All nominees will receive a sponsored FMA student membership, including an FMA shirt and other items donated by FMA sponsors. Nominations are being accepted from music directors through January 31, 2019. The 2019 FMA Solo Packet is available online at <http://flyingmusicians.org/members/download.php?list.65>.

# Blackfoot Pathways: Sculptures In The Wild Near Lincoln Airport

Across Highway 200 from the Lincoln Airport and within walking distance to town hides Sculpture In The Wild, a forest gem.

This unique outdoor attraction is displayed on 26 acres of wooded property and features large art exhibits from more than 16 resident artists. The exhibit's art features are created with natural and industrial materials from the local community and portray rich social, cultural, historical and environmental key factors found throughout the Blackfoot Valley.

The exhibit is open to the public from dawn to dusk, admission is free, and there is free on-site parking. The site is funded by donations and sponsorships.



*Photo credit: Sculpture in The Wild*

The Lincoln Airport is a Montana Department of Transportation-owned airport located in the Blackfoot Valley just east of Lincoln between highway 200 and the Blackfoot River. The adjacent art exhibit is an excellent stop and quick walk making a flight to Lincoln quite memorable. The airport provides a 4,239' X 75' asphalt runway in excellent condition and has a manicured pilot's campground and vaulted toilet near the river. Be sure to pack your fishing pole!

More information can be found at <http://www.sculptureinthewild.com>.



*Photo credit: Sculpture in The Wild*

BLACKFOOT PATHWAYS: SCULPTURE IN THE WILD  
1970 SCULPTURE WAY  
LINCOLN, MONTANA 59639

## Call for Speakers for Montana Aviation Conference

*Have an interesting story to tell?  
Know someone with an interesting story?*

We are opening the call for speakers for the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Aviation Conference to be held at the Fairmont Hot Springs Resort February 28 through March 2, 2019. MDT Aeronautics welcomes Montana's aviation community to offer suggestions of speakers and topics for this year's conference. Please forward your suggestions to [MDTAvConf@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAvConf@mt.gov) or call us with your ideas at (406) 444-2506.

# Calendar of Events

**December 01, 2018 - Aviation Scholarship Application Deadline.** Letters must be postmarked on or before December 01, 2018. Visit this site for detailed information [www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml).

**January 16 & 17, 2019 - Aeronautics Board Meeting.** For further information contact (406) 444-2506.

**January 20–22, 2019 - Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) Annual Convention and Trade Show.** For more information contact Colleen Campbell at (406) 781-6461.

**January 31, 2019 - Flying Musicians Association Solo Scholarship Application Deadline.** Visit this site for detailed information <http://flyingmusicians.org/members/download.php?list.65>.

**February 8 & 9, 2019 - Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC).** The MDT Aeronautics Division will conduct the 2019 FIRC February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Delta Hotel Helena Colonial, located at 2301 Colonial Drive, Helena Montana. Rooms have been blocked at prevailing government rate plus tax. Reserve your room by calling (406) 443-2100 and reference rooming block "Flight Instructor Refresher Course." The two-day, FAA approved course will run from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Friday and from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. For more information contact Jeremy Gouley at (406) 444-9568 or email [jgouley@mt.gov](mailto:jgouley@mt.gov).

**February 28 - March 2, 2019 - The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Aviation Conference.** Will be held at the Fairmont Hot Springs Resort located at 1500 Fairmont Rd., Anaconda, Montana. The closest commercial service airport is Bert Mooney (BTM) in Butte, Montana. **Lodging Information** - For your convenience, rooms have been blocked at conference rates at the following locations. Reservations must be made **prior to February 12, 2019** to be eligible for the conference rate. Reference rooming block **Montana Aviation Conference** to receive the conference rate. The conference has arranged transportation between the Fairmont and the Best Western and the Copper King locations. **Fairmont Hot Springs Resort** located at 1500 Fairmont Rd., Anaconda, MT - \$94.00 + taxes and fees for single occupancy; \$109.00 + taxes and fees for double occupancy; \$124.00 + taxes and fees for triple occupancy; \$139.00 + taxes and fees for quadruple occupancy. Rooms can be booked by calling (406) 797-3241. **You MUST reference Montana Aviation Conference to receive a room.** **Best Western Plus Butte Plaza Inn** located at 2900 Harrison Ave., Butte, MT - \$94.00 + taxes and fees. Rooms can be booked by calling (406) 494-3500. **Clarion Inn Copper King Convention Center** located at 4655 Harrison Ave., Butte MT - \$94.00 + taxes and fees. Rooms can be booked by calling (406) 565-5001. Visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml> for registration forms. For more information, contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 or email [MDTAvConf@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAvConf@mt.gov).

**March 1-2, 2019 - Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & IA Renewal Seminar.** Will be held in conjunction with the annual Montana Aviation Conference at the Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. Due to limited seating, IA Mechanic Seminar registrations will be accepted until sessions are full. Each session contains four hours of training with a total of four sessions. When registering, indicate which sessions you plan to attend. Only two sessions are required to meet Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 65, §65.93(a)(4) for IA renewal. Visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml> for registration forms. For more information, contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 or email [MDTAvConf@mt.gov](mailto:MDTAvConf@mt.gov).

## Aeronautics Board Loan & Grant Application Reminder

As a reminder to loan and grant applicants, the Loan and Grant online portal (<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/loans-grants.shtml>) will accept FY20 applications starting July 1, 2018, through **November 15, 2018**. If you cannot enter the website, you may have a previous award that needs a closeout form or a status report filed.

Additionally, make sure projects are broken down as required. As an example, asphalt projects should be broken down by runway, apron and taxiway, not as one project lumped together. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581 or [wcebulski@mt.gov](mailto:wcebulski@mt.gov).

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Civil Rights Bureau, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone (406) 444-9229. Those using a TTY may call (800) 335-7592 or go through the Montana Relay Service at 711.



**VISION ZERO**

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

MONTANA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION

# November 2018

5403

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PO Box 200507  
Helena, Montana 59620-0507



## Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone

In 2017, there were 187 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 187 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives for those left with the aftermath of unsafe driving behaviors. Which loved one are you prepared to lose? If your answer is none, then Vision Zero is also YOUR goal.

It will take every one of us to work towards the day that Vision Zero is met, and the fatality total reads "ZERO." Two of the highest contributing factors to traffic fatalities in 2017 were alcohol and no seat belt.

These are behaviors that can be changed! Start by always wearing your seatbelt and planning for sober transportation. Remind your loved ones and those around you to do the same.

*-Director Mike Tooley, MDT*

Visit [www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero) for more information.

**VISION ZERO** ★  
zero deaths · zero serious injuries

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION**

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